

F-8407

U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP03/04138
Filed March 31, 2003**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Currently amended) A bonding structure for a refractory sleeve attached to the inside of a continuous casting nozzle to define an inner hole of said nozzle, wherein said sleeve contains 20 mass% or more of CaO, said bonding structure comprising a joint formed by defining ~~applying an adhesive to~~ a joint zone ~~defined~~ in either one of at least a portion of the outer peripheral surface of said sleeve and at least a portion of the inner surface of a hollowed body of said nozzle to which said sleeve is attached, or between the inner surface of said body and the outer peripheral surface of said sleeve inserted into said body, ~~said and applying~~ an adhesive including a mixture of a refractory aggregate and a binder, ~~to porosity of to said joint zone,~~ said adhesive ~~in said joint zone~~ being adjusted to have a porosity in the range of 15 to 90% ~~in its dried state after dried in said joint zone.~~

2. (Currently amended) The bonding structure as defined in claim 1, wherein said adjustment for allowing said adhesive to have a porosity in the range of 15 to 90% after dried in said joint zone is performed ~~porosity is adjusted by~~

changing an amount of solvent and binder constituting said adhesive, or a filled amount of said adhesive.

3. (Currently amended) The bonding structure as defined in claim 1 or 2, wherein said refractory aggregate constituting said adhesive to be applied to said joint zone includes a primary refractory aggregate containing MgO as a primary component.

4. (Currently amended) The bonding structure as defined in claim 3, wherein said primary refractory aggregate constituting said adhesive to be applied to said joint zone ~~adhesive~~ includes 70 mass% or more of refractory aggregate which contains MgO having a particle size of 0.5 mm or less as a primary component, and 30 mass% or less of one or more substances including alumina and/or aluminum in the form of Al_2O_3 .